



DONALD L. WOLFE, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331  
Telephone: (626) 458-5100  
www.ladpw.org

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
P.O. BOX 1460  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: **C-1**

February 16, 2006

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO A  
PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT  
PROJECT ID NO. RDC0011034  
BEVERLY BOULEVARD OVER RIO HONDO CHANNEL  
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 1  
3 VOTES**

### **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

Authorize the Director of Public Works, or his designee, to prepare the construction contract in the form previously approved by County Counsel, execute the contract, and establish the effective dates following receipt of approved Faithful Performance and Labor and Material bonds for Project ID No. RDC0011034 - Beverly Boulevard over Rio Hondo Channel, Cities of Montebello and Pico Rivera (1).

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

On December 20, 2005, your Board approved this project, adopted the plans and specifications, advertised, and delegated authority to the Director of Public Works, or his designee, to award and execute a contract with the lowest responsible and responsive bidder and to deliver the project for an estimated cost between \$7,500,000 and \$8,750,000.

On February 14, 2006, bids were received from four contractors. All of the bids were greater than the estimated cost range. The bids received ranged from \$8,956,100.05 to \$10,657,281.10. Public Works is currently reviewing the bid proposals to determine the lowest responsive, responsible bidder.

In order to expedite the replacement and widening of this bridge, we recommend that, upon receipt of the local share of the project funding from the Cities of Montebello and Pico Rivera, your Board authorize the Director of Public Works, or his designee, to execute a contract with the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, and authorize and establish the effective contract dates following receipt of approved bonds and insurance filed by the contractor for this project.

The recommended action is necessary to expedite the replacement and widening of the bridge. Your Board's approval of delegated authority to award at the higher contract amount, and our subsequent execution of the contract, will ensure the timely completion of the project.

#### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

This action meets the County Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence since it will provide safer highway facilities for the traveling public.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

We received bids ranging from \$8,956,100.05 to \$10,657,281.10.

This project will be administered under the Federal Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program covered by Agreement 71078 with the State of California. Under this program, Federal-aid grant funds will be used to finance a portion of the project cost. The project is within the Cities of Montebello and Pico Rivera. The Cities will finance their respective nonfederally reimbursable local agency shares of the construction costs. This project is included in the Fiscal Year 2005-06 Road Fund Budget. We will award the construction contract following receipt of the Cities' funds.

#### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The State Labor Code requires contractors to pay prevailing wage rates to all persons employed on public works construction contracts. These rates are determined by the Department of Industrial Relations and include contributions for fringe benefits such as vacations, pension funds, training, and health plans for each employee.

As required by your Board, language has been incorporated into the project specifications stating that the contractor shall notify its employees, and shall require each subcontractor to notify its employees, that they may be eligible for the Federal Earned Income Credit under the Federal income tax laws.

The contract will be in the form previously approved by County Counsel. We will also review and approve the Faithful Performance and Labor and Material bonds filed by the contractor.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

On September 6, 2005, Synopsis No. 41, your Board approved a Mitigated Negative Declaration/Finding of No Significant Impact for Beverly Boulevard Phase III project to widen Beverly Boulevard and replace the bridge on Beverly Boulevard over Rio Hondo Channel.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

The plans and specifications for the reconstruction of the bridge include the contractual provisions, workmanship standards, and equipment requirements necessary for the prosecution of this project. The contract Agreement will be in a form previously approved by County Counsel.

The contract was solicited on an open competitive basis in accordance with the provisions of the Public Contract Code.

The project specifications contain provisions (1) requiring the contractor to comply with the County's Child Support Compliance Program, (2) requiring the contractor to report solicitations of improper considerations by County employees and allowing the County to terminate the contract if it is found that the contractor offered or gave improper consideration to County employees, (3) requiring the contractor to comply with the requirements of the Contractor Employee Jury Service Program, and (4) requiring the contractor to comply with the Newborn Abandonment Law (Safely Surrendered Baby Law).

The project specifications also contain a provision that, should the contractor require additional or replacement personnel to fill employment openings, consideration shall be given to hiring qualified participants in the County's Greater Avenues for Independence or General Relief Opportunities for Work Programs.

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To ensure that the contract is awarded to a responsible contractor with a satisfactory history of performance, the contractor was required to report False Claims Act violations, labor law/payroll violations, debarments, their civil litigation history, and information regarding prior criminal convictions. The information reported was considered before making this recommendation to award the contract.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The project is to be completed in 350 working days. It is estimated that the work will start in May 2006 and be completed in October 2007. Local residents and businesses will be informed that the traffic and local access will be disrupted during the construction.

### **CONCLUSION**

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD L. WOLFE  
Director of Public Works

JFG:lgm

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cc: Chief Administrative Office  
County Counsel  
Office of Affirmative Action Compliance